

SECOND ANNOUNCEMENT

Bioinformatics for Africa, Nairobi 2007

Workshop on the Bioinformatics of African Pathogens and Disease Vectors

28 May 07 – 3 Jun 07

ILRI Campus, Nairobi, Kenya

Hosted by: International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI, Kenya), International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology (ICIPE, Kenya), Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS, LIRMM Montpellier, France), African Society of Bioinformatics and Computational Biology (ASBCB)

This meeting aims to provide a forum for discussions and, potentially, the development of future collaborations amongst bioinformaticians, mathematicians, computer scientists and biologists, whose research focuses on the bioinformatics of African pathogens and their vectors. The workshop will also offer young and emerging scientists from Africa the opportunity to meet scientists from the international community whose research may be of relevance to their own work. The workshop will include plenary talks given by invited speakers from various part of the world and researchers from Africa. The plenary speakers listed here have confirmed their attendance. The list will grow as we receive interest from researchers with interest in the workshop theme.

- Mohamad Afshar (Institut Pasteur, FR), "In silico drug design"
- Matthew Berriman (Sanger, UK), "Data mining parasite genomes"
- Tulio De Oliveira (SANBI, UWC, ZA), "Resources and databases for HIV"
- Winston Hide (SANBI, ZA), "Translation of Genomics in endemic countries"
- Eric Maréchal (CNRS, FR), "In silico strategies for target discovery"
- Enrique Morett (Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México), "Taenia genomics"
- Allen Rodrigo (Univ. Auckland, NZ), "Evolution of HIV"
- Michel Tibayrenc (IRD, FR), "Trypanosomia, host/parasite/vector coevolution"

Oral and poster presentations will be sought in all areas of bioinformatics and computational biology with relevance to African disease vectors and pathogens. Workshop topics include:

- Functional, structural and comparative genomics of pathogens and their vectors
- Genetic interactions between pathogens, vectors, and/or hosts
- Evolution and co-evolution of vectors, pathogens and/or hosts
- Molecular epidemiology
- Immunomics and rational vaccine design
- Database and knowledge base development

Graduate students, young investigators and all African researchers involved in the field are strongly encouraged to submit an abstract describing their work. The Program Committee will choose selected abstracts for oral presentations. Those whose abstracts are not chosen for oral presentations will be able to present their work as posters. Grants will be given to African researchers to cover travel and local expenses, with priority for oral presentations and posters.

Dates and submission details

30 March 2007	Abstract and registration closes
15 April 2007	Notification of acceptance for oral presentations
1 May 2007	Release of draft program
28 May	Conference begins

Committees

- Organizing Committee, co-chairs: Daniel Masiga, ICIPE, Trushar Shah, BecA; members: Vincent Lefort, CNRS, Chantal Pacteau, CNRS, Estienne de Villiers, ILRI.
- Program Committee, co-chairs: Alia BenKahla (TN), Winston Hide (ZA); members: Ezekiel Adebisi (NG), Jaco de Ridder (ZA), Scott Hazelhurst (ZA), Beatrice Killel (KE), Daniel Masiga (KE), Nicky Mulder (ZA), Trushar Shah (KE), Estienne de Villiers (KE).
- International Scientific Committee, chair: Olivier Gascuel (CNRS, FR); members: Daniel Masiga (ICIPE, KE), Allen Rodrigo (Univ. Auckland, NZ), Winston Hide (SANBI, ZA).

For more information, please refer to <http://BioinformaticsForAfrica.lirmm.fr> or contact Dr. Daniel Masiga (dmasiga@icipe.org) or Dr. Olivier Gascuel (gascuel@lirmm.fr).

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